

Little Words

O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.—
Psalm 139:1, 3

What makes the difference in an average speech and a memorable one? What about a good time of fellowship with Christian friends? Various times we come away from a conversation feeling more positive and hopeful. Outstanding times in our lives are often characterized by the right words.

On the negative side, you have careless statements and misunderstood intentions. These often cause hurt or turmoil. This week, I was trying to bring focus to a student's lengthy comments and he took offense at my leaving out the details. This caused me to think that words we do not say as well as word we do say can cause another person's distress.

God hears every word we speak and He knows our intent. We might be careless or even angry when we choose our words. He knows when our words bring sadness to another and cause intentional hurt. He knows when we offer praise to Him, when we encourage a believer, when we share the love of Christ with those who need to know Him. He even knows the word we should say and fail to say.

It should be our prayer and true desire like the Psalmist, "*Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.*" (Psalm 19:14).